

## **Frequently asked questions about what ice products to use if it snows and how to use them.**

Why doesn't my custodian use the "sand" ice melt product that Exterior Operations people use?

- 1) The product Exterior Operations uses is only for parking lots. The "sand" product is corrosive and misapplication will cause damage. If used on concrete surfaces it deteriorates the concrete and can cause extensive damage. If the product is tracked into buildings it will cause damage to all flooring surfaces. In addition, the product can cause damage to plant life.

Which ice melt product should custodians use, when and where should it be used?

- 1) Use only the ice melt product Custodial Operations supplies you with.
- 2) Ice melt should only be used when icy conditions exist. It should be used sparingly and any excess should be swept up and disposed of.
- 3) Ice melt is primarily used on walkways but it can also be used on asphalt, play pads, ramps, and stairs.

Can my custodian put ice melt down ahead of a snowstorm as a precautionary measure?

- 1) Ice melt cannot be used as a preventative measure. The primary purpose of ice melt is to expedite the thawing and melting of ice once it's already formed on the sidewalks. Applying it to non-icy walks has no affect. In addition, weather forecasts are not 100% accurate. In many cases forecasted snow storms do not materialize. Applying ice melt prior to a storm is a waste of district resources.

Is there a limit to how much ice melt a custodian can order?

- 1) Safety is the number one concern of the Maintenance and Operations department. Custodians are responsible for managing and maintaining proper inventory of all products, including ice melt. The custodian can contact Custodial Operations to request ice melt when inventory levels are low.